



**UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Office of Press Relations**

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**READOUT
2021 TOKYO NUTRITION FOR GROWTH SUMMIT**

The below is attributable to Spokesperson Rebecca Chalif:

At the [2021 Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit](#) (N4G), U.S. Agency for International Development's (USAID) Administrator Samantha Power announced on behalf of the White House that the United States intends to invest up to \$11 billion over three years, subject to Congressional appropriations, to combat global malnutrition, the underlying cause of almost half of deaths among children under five globally. This investment will enable the U.S. government to equip partner countries' governments and communities with the skills and resources for improved health, diets, and nutrition by supporting communities in crisis with critical emergency food and nutrition assistance.

Administrator Power stated, **“By investing in locally-designed and -led nutrition programs, applying the evidence for what works, and adapting quickly, we can prevent child malnutrition, even in the time of COVID, and build a healthier world for everyone.”**

The United States investment will also include support for global initiatives to expand access to timely and credible national and sub-national nutrition data for decision-makers; scale up quality breastfeeding promotion and support to improve nutrition and health outcomes for mothers and newborns; and strengthen approaches to prevent and treat wasting. These planned investments will build resilient health systems and sustainable food systems to overcome setbacks posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, global climate crisis, conflict, and emergencies to ultimately prevent more children from becoming malnourished.

The virtual Summit convened thousands of participants from around the world, including heads of state, government leaders, the United Nations, civil society, academia, the private sector, and youth leaders, all focused on driving collective action to end malnutrition worldwide. The Summit emphasized that good nutrition is essential to ensuring the survival and wellbeing of women and children and remains an urgent global challenge. Sessions highlighted the importance of multi-sectoral collaboration to combat malnutrition worldwide--focusing on the need for accountable financing, increasing the capacity of health systems to deliver on evidence-based nutrition actions, inclusive food systems for healthier diets, tailored interventions for fragile contexts, and approaches that center the nutritional needs of women and children.

The country-led commitments were a hallmark of the Summit. Leaders from 45 countries with high burdens of malnutrition announced their governments' commitments to build stronger systems that support nutrition and reduce rates of malnutrition. The meaningful and measurable commitments demonstrated by low-and middle-income countries present a bold change to the nutrition landscape. The United States was thrilled to see so many of USAID's nutrition partner countries lead the way as the Agency looks to direct a greater percentage of its investments to advance local ownership.

Dr. Jennifer Adams, Acting Assistant Administrator for USAID's Bureau for Global Health, provided an opening narration for a video on Mobilizing Nutrition in Universal Health Coverage. She shared, **"The COVID-19 pandemic has proven how critical health systems are for our wellbeing, our prosperity, and our resilience..."** and emphasized that we must **"...align national health plans and universal health coverage roadmaps with national multisectoral nutrition plans."**

During a panel discussion on effectively addressing malnutrition in fragile and conflict-affected contexts, Sarah Charles, the Assistant Administrator of USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance, shared **"Given the protracted nature of the crises and the changing geography of poverty—increasingly concentrated in fragile settings—we need to adjust the way both humanitarian and development systems tackle malnutrition. Interventions and funding to detect, prevent and treat malnutrition need to be more flexible and they need to be across sectors such as health, livelihoods, food systems, and water and sanitation."**

The Summit also highlighted the necessity to engage a broader set of actors in achieving global nutrition goals. Remarks from representatives from the private sector and civil society underscored the importance of leveraging unique expertise and experience through innovative partnerships. Across the thematic discussions, youth speakers demonstrated their critical role as partners in addressing current challenges to nutrition. Their passion, expertise, creative problem-solving, and vision for the future will move the world closer to realizing the global goal of good nutrition for all. Pierre Cooke Jr., a One Young World Ambassador and member of Barbados National Youth Parliament, shared, **“The only way we can ensure a safe global food system is if the most vulnerable countries have the necessary access to foods to create that system.”**

Additionally, the United States made domestic programmatic commitments that further demonstrate the longstanding U.S. dedication to ending all forms of malnutrition at home and abroad. The United States pledged to undertake targeted policy action aimed to improve nutrition security in the U.S., including actions to increase access to and consumption of healthy foods, and reduce intake of excess sodium and added sugars. Other U.S. announcements included reaffirming our commitment to improving diets in older children by joining the new School Meals Coalition: Nutrition, Health and Education for Every Child.

The United States looks forward to building on these commitments at the 10th Anniversary of the Global Call to Action on Child Survival in 2022. We appreciate France's commitment to hosting the next N4G Summit in 2024 and are eager to maintain the momentum coming out of the Summit by recognizing the African Union's Year of Nutrition throughout 2022.

Additional Information

- [White House Fact Sheet: Biden-Harris Administration Announces Plans for \\$11 Billion to End Malnutrition at Global Nutrition Summit](#)
- [Administrator Power Announces \\$11 Billion to Combat Malnutrition and Safeguard The Lives of Women and Children](#)
- [Administrator Samantha Power At The Tokyo 2021 Nutrition For Growth Summit](#)
- [Press Statement: 2021 Nutrition for Growth Summit](#)

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